

BAY CITY AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (BCATS)

Technical Committee Minutes - September 2, 2008

Page 1

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m.

Engelhardt had everyone at the meeting make brief introductions.

Those present were:

Dave Engelhardt, BCATS staff; Dirk Westbury, BCATS staff; John Gaydos, City of Bay City; Jim Lillo, Bay County Road Commission; Terry Moulane, Bay City, Dave Geiger, MDOT-Saginaw; Brandon Wilcox, MDOT Planning; Rick Fowler, MDOT Planning; Adam Rivard, MDOT Bay City; and Laura Ogar, Director of Bay County Environmental Affairs & Community Development.

Minutes from June 10, 2008 Tech meeting:

It was moved by Gaydos, seconded by Moulane, to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2008 meeting. Motion Passed.

MDOT Presentation - A Looming Financial Crisis for Transportation:

Fowler from MDOT Planning gave a presentation regarding the financial crisis that is looming over Transportation Department in our state and in the nation. The original presentation was given on August 19th at MTPA by Susan Bartell of MDOT. Fowler provided handouts of the presentation. The overall message was that travel trends are down, so State revenues are declining which makes Federal revenue for transportation uncertain. The travel trend, plus increasing costs for equipment and gas have created an issue for transportation funding. There is an anticipated shortfall of State revenue and unmatched federal-aid that will be over \$2.6 Billion over the 2010-2013 time frame. While the overall financial picture looks grim, there is still hope that congress will take steps to turn things around. A report is being sent to the Governor on October 31, 2008 regarding the transportation issues facing Michigan. There should be a period of public comment prior to the submission of this report.

Local Jobs Today:

Engelhardt provided members with a handout of an e-mail regarding Local Jobs Today. The e-mail outlined project advances for Local Jobs Today. There was some confusion and concerns regarding the e-mail. Fowler said he would talk to the MDOT Finance Department to see if he could get more information and clarify the concerns.

Programing of \$325,466 for FY 2009 in BCATS 2008-11 TIP:

Engelhardt explained that he was told by MDOT to program \$325,466 of projects into the TIP. It is unclear if this funding will be available in 2009. However MDOT wants the MPOs to be prepared with projects that are ready to go in case it is available. Gaydos explained that he has a project that's ready to go right now that can be added to the TIP. He further explained that the City of Bay City was prepared to fund said project so if it were placed in the TIP and funds were received, that would be great. On the other hand, if the funding were cut and the project didn't get Federal funding it would still move forward because the City of Bay City was already prepared to pay for the project. Discussion ensued.

A motion was made by Lillo, seconded by Gaydos, to make favorable recommendation to the BCATS Policy Committee to approve the movement of \$325,466 in the TIP for the Harrison

Street Project. Motion passed.

Title VI Reporting:

Engelhardt reminded members that they need to get Title VI Certification underway as it's due in September, 2008. Verna Miller of MDOT is the contact person for Title VI.

Project Updates:

The **Woodside Avenue Project** is complete, however there is an issue about the faulty fabric installation. The project will have to be milled and resurfaced due to defects already showing through in the asphalt surface layer. It has been determined that the contractor will have to take action against the sub-contractor for resolution. The **North Henry Street Project** is going well and it is expected to be complete by November 15, 2008. The **Pine Street Project** is complete and open. The **Seven Mile Project** is expected to begin September 8th or 9th. The **MDOT M-25 Project** for patch work from Dean to Johnson Street is going well. The **M-25 Center Ave Project** will let in September, 2008.

Other/New Business:

Non-Motorized Region Plan:

Geiger said that this project was on hold right now due to some issues.

Carmine Palombo E-Mail:

Lillo received an e-mail from Carmine Palombo, Chair of the Asset Management Council regarding a question & answer request in which an implementing agency could get money for local traffic counts.

M-15/Trumbull Corridor Letter:

Gaydos discussed the letter of request for study options from the BCATS Policy Committee regarding the M-15/Trumbull Corridor. He stated that he was looking into getting one letter signed from both the City of Bay City and the Road Commission. He's working on putting together the letter.

Safety Grants

Gaydos questioned if anyone has heard anything about what's going on with Safety Grants. Fowler and Geiger haven't heard anything.

As there was no other business, the September 2, 2008 meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Engelhardt
BCATS Director

Transcribed by C. Gaul